



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

CHENG

Atty. Ref.: 723-845

Serial No. 09/643,981

TC/A.U.: 2615

Filed: August 23, 2000

Examiner: L. Lao

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MIXING SOUND SIGNALS

\* \* \* \* \*

September 4, 2007

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider

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information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

1.  This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required. In the event, a first Office Action has been mailed prior to filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Office is requested to treat the present paper as a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The present paper is submitted in duplicate for this purpose.

2.  This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

a.  I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

b.  I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

c.  Attached is our Check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

3.  This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. It is hereby requested that the

Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check for \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

- a.  I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- b.  I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

c.  Patent Term Adjustment

For purposes of patent term adjustment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704, each item contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in Section 1.56(c) more than 30 days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d).

4.  Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.

5.  This IDS includes information cited in an office action in counterpart and information cited in a search report in counterpart. Copies of the office action and search report are enclosed for the Examiner's convenient reference. English-language counterparts for some of the cited document are provided.

6.  A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:

7.  The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application Nos., which are directed to related technical subject matter. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

8.  Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. 09/643,984, filed August 23, 2000, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 14-1140 referencing docket number 723-845.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:   
Michael J. Shea  
Reg. No. 34,725

MJS:dbp  
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

Sheet 1 of 2

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

**Atty. Docket No.**

**Serial No.**

723-845

EP 04 · 2007

**Applicant**

09/643,981

CHENG

**Filing Date**

C.A.U.

**August 23, 2000**

2615

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
				CLASS	SUBCLASS	
	5,471,450	11/1995	YONEMITSU et al.	369	60	
	5,607,356	03/1997	SCHWARTZ	463	31	
	5,689,080	11/1997	GULICK	84	604	
	5,753,841	05/1998	HEWITT	84	604	
	5,763,801	06/1998	GULICK	84	604	
	5,809,342	09/1998	GULICK	395	884	
	5,835,944	11/1998	LAHTI et al.	711	118	
	5,847,304	12/1998	HEWITT	84	622	
	5,895,469	04/1999	LAHTI et al.	395	872	
	5,966,182	12/1999	YONEMITSU et al.	348	423	
	6,008,446	12/1999	VAN BUSKIRK et al.	84	603	
	6,016,522	01/2000	ROSSUM	710	52	
	6,047,365	04/2000	CHAMBERS et al.	711	220	
	6,100,461	08/2000	HEWITT	84	603	
	6,137,043	10/2000	ROSSUM	84	603	
	6,137,046	10/2000	KAMIYA	84	604	
	6,138,183	10/2000	TIEN et al.	710	22	
	6,148,439	11/2000	NISHIYAMA	717	9	
	6,195,736	02/2001	LISLE	711	206	
	6,239,345	05/2001	LAROCHE	84	604	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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## TRANSLATION

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)**

\*Examiner

### Date Considered